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# CAPITOL CHAPTER

Sen. Frank Church (D-Ida.), who for a long time said that his work on the CIA investigation would prohibit his thinking about running for president, has changed his mind—and is causing much frustration among his committee staff members. "We've completely lost him," one said. "He's just thinking about his campaign now." Church, who is now hiring a separate campaign staff, has been noticeably absent from important committee hearings—including one where former attorneys general Nick Katzenbach and Ramsey Clark appeared—and staffers predict it'll get worse as the '76 election approaches. Asked when the CIA investigation would end, one staff member said wryly, "When's the first primary?"

The last time Church was in the limelight was back in 1964, when he was one of the first to come out against the Vietnam war. Then came the Cooper-Church amendment to limit American intervention in Cambodia, and Church's reputation as a dove was made. (Church

laughs privately that many people still think his first name is Cooper.) One longtime political observer speculates that Church's strategy will be to use his antiwar credentials to make himself this election's antiwar candidate—and thus win the time and money of the old peace movement people—even though the war is over.

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Our sources say that the closest China ambassador George Bush will ever get to the directorship of the CIA will be his testimony on Capitol Hill. Sentiment is running high against his confirmation (Bush is the former chairman of the Republican National Committee). In fact, CIA Committee chairman Frank Church has already announced that he'll do all he can to block it. Several Senate staffers indicate that if Bush manages to get as far as hearings on his nomination, there'll be real fireworks. "It's purely political patronage," says one. "He'll never be confirmed." As of now, indications are that

President Ford will not withdraw the nomination—but some are hoping that Bush will remove himself from consideration. "I've been looking for someone to bet me that Bush will be confirmed," said one foreign policy expert, "but no one will take the bet."